restrictive economic measures which it had imposed on India after May 1998.

Proposal to combat terrorism by India and Russia

2085. DR. Y. LAKSHMI PRASAD: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether India and Russia proposed to combat global terrorism jointly;

(b) if so, the details of working group formed for this purpose; and

(c) when the proposals are likely to be finalised?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA): (a) The issue of international terrorism has been among the subject of discussion between India and the Russian Federation at the highest level as also Ministerial and other levels. Both India and the Russian Federation are committed to take joint action to eliminate this menace.

(b) and (c) The Protocol of Cooperation between the National Security Council of India and the Security Council of the Russian Federation, signed in New Delhi in April 2000, envisages the formation of a Joint Coordination Group to enhance mutual cooperation in combating international terrorism. Modalities on the setting up of the Joint Coordination Group are under discussion.

Sanctions against India after Pokhran tests

2086. SHRI SWARAJ KAUSHAL: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the names of countries who continue to employ/enforce sanctions against India after the Pokhran test;

(b) the nature of such sanctions by each country;

(c) what is the impact of such sanctions on economy trade and other areas; and

(d) what steps has the Government have taken against the countries who continue to enforce such sanctions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA): (a) to (c) After India's nuclear tests in May 1998, USA, Japan, Canada, Germany, Netherlands, Sweden, Norway, Denmark, Switzerland and Australia imposed certain restrictive economic measures against India. The measures mostly related to developmental assistance or concessional loans. Some of these countries have variously exempted assistance related to humanitarian programmes, poverty alleviation, food and basic human needs from those measures. While humanitarian and other ongoing projects have not been generally affected, funding for some other projects has been*held up as a result of the restrictive measures. It would not be possible to quantify the commercial and economic impact of these measures because of their changing situation.

USA has subsequently removed some of the restrictive economic measures against India.

(b) The Government continues to be engaged in dialogue with key interlocutors at various levels with regard to the lifting of the restrictive economic measures.

Signing of CTBT

2087. SHRIMATI BASANTI SARMA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to sign on C.T.B.T. (Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty) as per assurance given to European Union in Lisbon;

(b) if so, whether the country has achieved self-reliance in the field of defence to meet perspective challenges;

(c) if so, the details thereof and if not, whether such assurance has been given under any pressure from any Country;

(d) if so, whether the said country has eliminated nuclear weapons completely and is not undertaking any test in this direction; and

(e) if not, the basis on which they are pressurising India?